In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an absorbent polymer comprising the steps of:

a first mixing event, wherein a plurality of absorbent polymer particles are mixed with a liquid in a mixer; and

a second mixing event, wherein the liquid is distributed within the polymer particles;

wherein the polymer particles in the first mixing event are mixed with a first mixing speed ~~such that the kinetic energy of the individual polymer particles is on average larger than the adhesion energy between the individual polymer particles~~, and the polymer particles in the second mixing event are stirred with a lower speed than in the first mixing event; and

wherein the first mixing event is a continuous mixing process

wherein in the first mixing event the polymer particles are back-mixed in such a way that a flow of the new polymer particles entering in the mixer is overlaid by a flow of polymer particles already present in the mixer and opposed to this flow

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 2, wherein the ratio of the opposed flow to the flow of newly entering polymer particles averages about 5 to about 50 % by wt.

4. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein before the first mixing event the absorbent polymer particles have been secondary cross-linked in the surface portion and have been brought into contact with a composition comprising an Al^{3+} ion before the secondary cross-linking.

5. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the average speed of the polymer particles in the first mixing event amounts to between about 8 and about 80 m/sec.

6. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the Froude number in the first mixing event amounts to between about 1 and about 50.

7. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein a back-mixing from about 10% to about 30% occurs.

8. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the average residence time of the first mixing event amounts to between about 5 and about 200 sec.

9. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 wherein ~~for a safe blending~~ the static pressure build up during the first mixing event amounts to less than about 0.1 bar.

10. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein water or aqueous solution is added as liquid.

11. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the liquid comprises additives.

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the polymer particles are based on:

(α1) about 0.1 to about 99.999 wt.% polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated, acidic group-containing monomers containing a protonated or a quaternary nitrogen, or mixtures thereof,

(α2) 0 to about 70 wt.% of polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated monomers which can be co-polymerized with (α1),

(α3) about 0.001 to about 10 wt.% of one or more cross-linkers,

(α4) 0 to about 30 wt.% of water soluble polymers, as well as

(α5) 0 to about 20 wt.% of one or more additives, wherein the sum of the component weights (α1) to (α5) amounts to 100 wt.%.

13. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the polymer particles have at least one of the following properties:

(A) the maximum absorption of 0.9 wt.% NaCl solution is within a range from at least about 10 to about 1000 g/g SAP granulate,

(B) the part extractable with 0.9 wt.% aqueous NaCl solution amounts to less than about 30 wt.%, based on the SAP granulate,

(C) the bulk density is within a range from about 300 to about 1000 g/l,

(D) the pH value for 1 g of the SAP granulate in 1 l water is within a range from about 4 to about 10,

(E) the CRC value is within a range from about 10 to about 100 g/g,

(F) the AAP value under a pressure of 0.7 psi is within a range from about 10 to about 60 g/g,

(G) the AAP value under a pressure of 0.3 psi is within a range from about 10 to about 100 g/g.

Claims 14-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a composite, wherein an absorbent polymer made according to claim [[14]] 1 and a substrate and optionally an additive are brought into contact with each other.

Claims 18-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 5 wherein the speed of the polymer particles in the second mixing process amounts to under about 3 m/sec.

22. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein the Froude number in the second mixing event amounts to between about 0.001 and about 1.